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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP INTELLIGENCE REPORT

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COUNTRY USSR/Estonia

SUBJECT Tallinn Area: Military, Naval and
Air InformationDATE **CONFIDENTIAL**

INFO. []

DIST. 16 April 1947

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SUPPLEMENT

ATTACHMENTS 2

ORIGIN []

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Military

1. Soviet regimental headquarters 291, with a staff of forty officers, is located on the Tartu Maantee (Tartu Road), in Tallinn, 150 meters south of the streetcar crossing. The body of this regiment is billeted in barracks in the southern section of the town. Troops are extremely young and wear brown epaulets on assorted uniforms which suggest a clothing shortage. Most of the troops are armed with tommyguns, of which two models (one old, one new) were observed. These troops are receiving intensive infantry training.
2. The second regiment in Tallinn is No. 120. This number, as well as 291, was observed on shoulder straps.
3. Motorization of the Soviet Army in the Tallinn area has been put through on a large scale. Studebaker and Chevrolet trucks are chiefly used. The Soviet-made Ford is considered to be an inferior vehicle. In the civilian sector, [] sixty per-cent of the automobiles in use are German types.
4. At Järve, a few kilometers south of Tallinn (see attached map), installations of the Estonian War Academy (Tondi Soja Kool) are being repaired by the Russians. Three of the four blocks have been completely rebuilt; the fourth block is half completed. Soviet troops occupy these buildings.
5. Reconstruction of the War Academy building is being rushed. A number of German PWs assigned to this job are housed in a special camp run by the Soviet Army and not by the MVD, as in other camps. These PWs are not permitted to contact PWs from other []

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6. Attached to the War Academy barracks complex are a troop training field and three buildings used, respectively, for the storage of rifles, machine guns and ammunition. Each building measures 20 x 60 meters and each is heavily guarded. South of these depots are four supply buildings constituting the main food depot for the area. Up to late 1946, this depot was located in Tallinn. It bears the number 21 and the inscription OWS. A railroad track, built by the Russians, runs to the depot from the Tallinn-Nomme line.
7. A new brick building is under construction opposite the Nomme railroad station. It is said that this is to be occupied by a Soviet divisional staff.
8. Approximately 200-250 heavy AA guns are located in fields bordering the road midway between Tallinn and Piritä.

Naval

9. The port of Tallinn is functioning well although some war damage can still be observed. The western pier, blasted in four places, has not been repaired; only one of the four warehouses can be used; and at the end of the western pier, divers are working on sunken vessels.
10. The port may be used by ships with a draw up to eleven meters. There are only a few cranes; the largest, of eighty ton capacity, is a floating crane. The entire port area is off limits and its single entrance is carefully guarded.
11. Approximately seventy small craft, such as mine-sweepers, coastal vessels, etc., are based at Tallinn. The former German cruiser Nürnberg was under repair in the Morskoi Zavod shipyards from June until September 1946. Repairs could not be completed at Tallinn and the vessel was finally towed eastward.
12. Merchant vessels arrive daily at Tallinn from Stettin.
13. During the second half of 1946, dismantled machinery from the following plants arrived at Tallinn by water:

Mitteldeutsche Stahlwerke (Riesa)
 Metallwerke Morgenstern (Dresden)
 Meissner Porzellanfabrik

All this machinery was shipped on to Moscow.

14. A naval "stronghold" is being constructed under the supervision of Soviet Navy officers at the mouth of the Piritä River, east of Tallinn.

☐ Comment: Additional information on the port is indicated on the attached map.

Air

15. A new large airfield is being built in a heavily wooded area approximately forty kilometers south of Tallinn. Some German PWs are among the laborers employed.

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Highway

16. The highway Tallinn-Narva-Leningrad, severely damaged during the war, is being repaired and "enlarged".

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